

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/623,471

Examiner

James J. Debrow

Applicant(s)

PLASTINA ET AL.

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 19 Oct. 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19, 21-28, 30-39, 41-47, 49 and 50 (renumbered as 1-41 respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

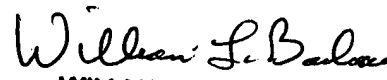
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date See Continuation Sheet
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 02 Jan 2008
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date: 31 Oct, 07 & 18 May 06.

William L. Bashore
**WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

"EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT" AND "REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE"

1. This action is responsive to communications: Remarks filed on 19 Oct. 2007.
2. Claims 1-6, 9, 10, 12-14, 16, 17, 19, 21-28, 30-39, 41-47, 49 and 50 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 13, 26, 33 and 43 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed **31 Oct. 2007** fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because *it is a duplicate of the IDS file 01 Nov. 2007*. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

The information disclosure statement filed **18 May 2006** fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because *it list non-patent literature document without submitting a copy of the non-patent literature*. It has been placed in the application file, but the *non-patent literature* referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with **(Arthur) Tan-Chi Yuan** on 21 Dec. 2007.

The application has been amended as follows: **See Attachment 1**

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The amended claims overcomes prior art(s) of record Meyer, Berkun and Barker, in that the claimed invention recites *"receiving a trustworthiness rating corresponding to the return metadata, said receiving trustworthiness rating comprises receiving a plurality of trustworthiness ratings and collectively displaying the received plurality of trustworthiness ratings to a user"*, in combination with all other limitations within each independent claim. This is supported within the specification, section 0047.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Debrow whose telephone number is 571-272-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JAMES DEBROW
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2176

Attachment 1

Claim Set for entry of Examiner's Amendments

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for processing data in a media player, said method comprising:

receiving one or more user-configurable reconciliation rules from a user, said reconciliation rules resolving metadata associated with media content;

rendering the media content in the media player;

generating an automatic request for metadata from a metadata provider in response to the media content being rendered in the media player, said requested metadata to be associated with the rendered media content;

receiving return metadata from the metadata provider in response to the automatically generated request for metadata;

receiving a trustworthiness rating corresponding to the return metadata, said receiving trustworthiness rating comprises receiving a plurality of trustworthiness ratings, and collectively displaying the received plurality of trustworthiness ratings to the user;
and

performing an action specified by the reconciliation rules based on the received trustworthiness rating, said action including at least one of the following based on the received trustworthiness rating: updating a media file associated with the media content, renaming the file, organizing a directory structure of one or more media files, storing the return metadata with the media content, storing the received trustworthiness rating with the media content, and prompting [[a]] the user to accept the return metadata.

Claim 2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising replacing an existing metadata state with the received return metadata based on the received trustworthiness rating.

Claim 3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the return metadata comprises metadata determined by the metadata provider to be associated with the media content.

Claim 4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the received trustworthiness rating represents a degree of relevance of the return metadata to the media content.

Claim 5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the received trustworthiness rating comprises a percentage.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting, based on the received trustworthiness rating, [[a]] the user to review the return metadata.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the received trustworthiness rating indicates that the return metadata matches the requested metadata, and further comprising storing the return metadata with the media content without intervention from [[a]] the user.

Claim 10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the received trustworthiness rating indicates that the return metadata may not match the requested metadata, and further comprising prompting the user to accept or reject the return metadata.

Claim 11. (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): One or more computer-readable storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of managing a plurality of metadata states, said plurality of metadata states including one metadata state and another metadata state, each of said metadata states comprising one or more items of metadata automatically matched

to media content in response to the media content being rendered by a media player, said method comprising:

maintaining a history data structure in a file storing the media content, said history data structure storing the other metadata state;

receiving items of metadata associated with the other metadata state from a metadata provider, said metadata provider providing the items of metadata associated with the other metadata state that are determined to be relevant to the media content;

receiving a trustworthiness rating corresponding to the received items of metadata, said receiving trustworthiness rating comprises receiving a plurality of trustworthiness ratings, and collectively displaying the received plurality of trustworthiness ratings to a user;

receiving a request from [[a]] the user to replace the one metadata state with the other metadata state; and

replacing each set of metadata items associated with the one metadata state with a corresponding set of metadata items associated with the other metadata state in response to the received request and as a user-configurable function of the received trustworthiness rating.

Claim 14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein each item of metadata comprises a value specific to the media content.

Claim 15. (canceled)

Claim 16. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising displaying the received items of metadata to the user for review.

Claim 17. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising storing the received items of metadata in a file storing the media content.

Claim 18. (canceled)

Claim 19. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the items of metadata associated with the one metadata state are stored in a file along with the media content.

Claim 20 (canceled).

Claim 21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein replacing each set of metadata items comprises replacing each set of metadata items associated with the one metadata state with a corresponding set of metadata items stored in the history data structure.

Claim 22. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the history data structure defines an empty metadata state for the media content and wherein replacing each set of metadata items comprises replacing each set of metadata items associated with the one metadata state with a null value from the empty metadata state.

Claim 23. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein replacing each set of metadata items comprises replacing a single item of metadata.

Claim 24. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the other metadata state lacks metadata, and wherein replacing each set of metadata items comprises removing all metadata from the media content.

Claim 25 (currently amended): One or more computer-readable storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 13.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A system comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable components for managing one or more items of metadata associated with media content being rendered by a media player, said components comprising:

a communications component for receiving metadata automatically matched to the media content in response to the media content being rendered, said communications component further receiving a trustworthiness rating associated with the received

metadata, said receiving trustworthiness rating comprises receiving a plurality of trustworthiness ratings, and collectively displaying the received plurality of trustworthiness ratings to a user;

a user-configurable authoring module for selectively applying the received metadata to the media content based on a trustworthiness rating received via the communications component, wherein said authoring module is user-configurable to selectively apply the received metadata to the media content; and

a user interface component for displaying to [[a]] the user for review, accept or reject, based on the received trustworthiness rating, the metadata received via the communications component.

Claim 27. (original) The system of claim 26, wherein the authoring module applies the received metadata by replacing each item of metadata associated with one metadata state with a corresponding item of the received metadata associated with another metadata state.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The system of claim 26, wherein the communications component further receives a request from [[a]] the user to store the received metadata with the media content.

Claim 29 (canceled).

Claim 30. (original) The system of claim 26, further comprising a rollback module for maintaining a history data structure in the file, said history data structure storing the received metadata along with a previous metadata state associated with the media content.

Claim 31. (original) The system of claim 30, wherein the authoring module replaces each item of metadata associated with one metadata state with a corresponding item of metadata from another metadata state maintained in the history data structure by the rollback module.

Claim 32. (original) The system of claim 30, wherein the history data structure defines an empty metadata state for the media content and wherein the authoring module replaces each item of metadata associated with the one metadata state with a null value from the empty metadata state.

Claim 33. (previously presented) A method of updating metadata in a computer system having a user interface including a display and being responsive to a user interface selection device, said method comprising:

- rendering media content by a media player;
- receiving metadata automatically matched to the rendered media content from a metadata provider in response to the media content being rendered in the media player;
- displaying the received metadata to [[the]] a user on the display;
- receiving, from the metadata provider, a trustworthiness rating associated with the received metadata, said receiving trustworthiness rating comprises receiving a plurality of trustworthiness ratings, and collectively displaying the received plurality of trustworthiness ratings to the user;
- displaying the received trustworthiness rating to the user on the display;
- receiving a selection request from the user via the user interface selection device, said selection request specifying acceptance or rejection of the displayed metadata by the user based on the received trustworthiness rating associated with the displayed metadata;
- and
- performing an action on the displayed metadata in response to the received selection request.

Claim 34. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein the selection request specifies rejection of the received metadata, and wherein the selection request further comprises a request from the user to edit the received metadata.

Claim 35. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein the selection request specifies rejection of the received metadata, and wherein the selection request further comprises a request from the user to restore previously received metadata.

Claim 36. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein the selection request specifies rejection of the received metadata, and wherein the selection request further comprises a request from the user to discard the received metadata.

Claim 37. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein the selection request specifies rejection of the received metadata, and wherein the selection request further comprises a request from the user to search for additional metadata for the media content.

Claim 38. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein the selection request specifies acceptance of the received metadata, and wherein the selection request further comprises a request from the user to apply the received metadata by storing the received metadata with the media content.

Claim 39. (original) The method of claim 33, further comprising storing the received metadata in a cache.

Claim 40. (canceled)

Claim 41. (original) The method of claim 33, further comprising displaying one or more reconciliation rules on the display for selection by the user via the user interface selection device, each of said reconciliation rules specifying an action to perform in response to the received trustworthiness rating.

Claim 42 (currently amended): One or more computer-readable storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 33.

Claim 43. (previously presented) A user interface enabling a user to select one of a plurality of values associated with a metadata item, said metadata item being automatically matched to media content in response to the media content being rendered by a media player, said user interface comprising:

one or more data fields, each of said data fields displaying a metadata value associated with the metadata item;

a rating field displaying a trustworthiness rating associated with the metadata value for each of the data fields, said displaying trustworthiness rating comprises receiving a plurality of trustworthiness ratings, and collectively displaying the received plurality of trustworthiness ratings to the user;

a selection field for receiving a command from [[a]] the user, said command selecting, based on the corresponding trustworthiness rating displayed in the rating field, one or more of the metadata values from the data fields for association with the metadata item and storage with the media content; and

a query field for receiving a search term from the user, said search term describing the media content and enabling determination of another metadata value relevant to the media item based on the received search term.

Claim 44. (original) The user interface of claim 43, wherein at least one of the metadata values in the plurality of data fields is selected automatically based on a trustworthiness rating associated with the at least one metadata value.

Claim 45. (original) The user interface of claim 43, wherein the selection field comprises a plurality of checkboxes, each of said checkboxes being associated with one of the plurality of data fields.

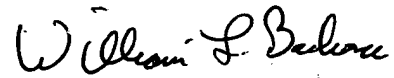
Claim 46. (original) The user interface of claim 43, wherein the selection field comprises a button that indicates acceptance of the selected metadata value.

Claim 47. (original) The user interface of claim 43, wherein the metadata item comprises at least one of the following: an album title, an artist name, a song title, a genre, a composer name, a track number, a studio, a director, and a rating.

Claim 48. (canceled)

Claim 49. (previously presented) The user interface of claim 43, further comprising a reconciliation field for displaying one or more user-configurable reconciliation rules for selection by the user, each of said reconciliation rules specifying an action to perform in response to the trustworthiness rating displayed in the rating field.

Claim 50. (original) The user interface of claim 43, wherein the user interface comprises a display device.


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